2: Murphy G-4 (no date) 1953 AF15 East China AF15

of three scattered years in which either the tea or silk crop failed.[6] The merchants in foreign trade at Shanghai deplored the success at their expense of tea cultivation in India, Ceylon, Japan, Java and Formosa, and of silk production in Japan. But they were nevertheless able to maintain the volume of tea and silk exports from Shanghai until 1930 at the same time that they were adding to the list of exports a variety of new goods which in the aggregate after 1890 were increasingly more important than tea and silk combined (table I).

Among the new exports were two new virtual monopolies: pig bristles and wood oil (t'ung oil), both produced predominantly in Szechuan and both marketed predominantly through Shanghai.*[7] But together with the increasing commercial exploitation of the entire Yangtze basin after 1860, in which wood oil and bristles played a prominent part, the end of the century also saw the rising importance of manufacturing in Shanghai. Agricultural and animal products (or raw materials in general) remained the majority of Shanghai's exports through 1930, but their prominence continued to decrease after 1890 as textiles and other manufactured goods increased in importance. Raw cotton disappeared from the list of major exports after 1910 as it was increasingly in demand in Shanghai textile mills, and exports of miscellaneous manufactures finally exceeded exports of miscellaneous raw materials in 1930 (table I).

Table II showing imports demonstrates that the relative decline in opium was not due to the prohibition of its import as much as to the spread of opium cultivation in China and the ease with which Szechuan opium could compete in Shanghai with foreign opium (see above, Chapter Seven). The table shows that by 1890 opium accounted for only 22 per cent of Shanghai's imports by value (as against an estimated 54 per cent in 1850), but the import of opium was not legally abolished until 1917 (an international convention in 1911 increased the duty on opium imports and fixed

* China's trade in pig bristles has recently been severely cut into by the use of nylon bristles, and the trade in wood oil has also been badly damaged by the increase in domestic production in the United States (China's chief market for wood oil) during and since the war, and by the use of substitutes and synthetics.